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PATENT  
Docket No. H 3243 PCT/US

A/#8  
QB/30/02  
AS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

RE: PCT/EP99/09404  
International Filing Date: December 2, 1999  
Priority Date Claimed: December 9, 1998  
Applicant: Lange, et al.  
Title: AGENT AND METHOD FOR SEALING OR CONSOLIDATING ROCK,  
LOOSE ROCK OR SOILS, ESPECIALLY BORE HOLES  
Applicants' Reference: H 3243 PCT/US

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, DC 20231

ATTN: DO/EO/US

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of the above-identified national stage application pursuant to the accompanying submission under 35 U.S.C. §371, please amend the English translation of the International Application submitted herewith, without prejudice, as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the instant Specification, without prejudice, as follows:

Please delete all text above line 4 of page 1, and replace the deleted matter with the following new section headings and title of the invention:

--TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Rock and Soil Sealing Compositions Containing Silica Sols  
and Hardness Stabilizers, and Methods of Using the Same

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

At page 3, between lines 2 and 3 thereof, please insert the following new section heading and new paragraph: